

Native Village of Barrow  
Child and Family Services Plan  
2012-2014



Submitted to  
Administration for Children and Families  
U.S. Department of Health and Human  
Services  
Updated June 30th, 2012

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## **Attachments**

- A. CFS-101 Part I, II, and III
- B. Certification of Population Count
- C. Signed Assurances
- D. Disaster plan
- E. Organizational Chart
- F. Position Description
- G. Resolution

# Overview

## Geographical Boundaries



Located on the northern-most tip of Alaska, Barrow is the farthest-north city in the United States. Situated 340 miles north of the Arctic Circle, this historic place is where the Inupiat would gather during the spring and fall to go whaling and in modern day is now the hub of the North Slope Borough (NSB).

Barrow is the site of regional health and social services, including the senior center, women's shelter, family services, mental health services, health care, police station, and fire station. There are seven outlying villages on the North Slope: Anaktuvuk Pass, Atkasuk, Kaktovik (Barter Island), Nuiqsut, Point Hope, Point Lay, and Wainwright. These villages are isolated from other Alaskan Communities and each other. There are no roads connecting them to each other or to the rest of Alaska. Air travel remains the only viable access to Barrow and the seven outlying villages that reside within the 94,763 square miles that makes up the NSB.

## Population Served

The Native Village of Barrow's (NVB) tribal membership falls within the boundaries of the City of Barrow. The 2011 tribal membership population of whom this grant will largely serve is 3,449, of which 1,251 are under the age of 21. The updated overall population number for 2012 is 3,524 of which 2,335 are under the age of 21.

## Statement of the Problem

The Native Village of Barrow provides Social Services to a membership population that is comprised of over 3,400 members. The staff is young of experience and is comprised of only four employees. There is only one emergency placement foster home and all other foster care is through family placement that most often is not licensed. Resources of support are scarce for both foster parents and parents who need to be on a plan of improvement.

Lack of funding makes a difficult situation even harder; these funds would help to alleviate some of that strain by providing dollars that will provide training to an inexperienced staff and to promote badly needed emergency and permanent care foster placement by holding such things workshops and creating media to be distributed. These funds will provide an opportunity to keep children intake with their cultural identities and to further promote a healthy community.

## Foster Care Statistics for Native American Children

### Nationally

In a newsletter Connections Winter 2009 developed by CASA author Lisette Austin writes the following in her article, "Serving Native American Children in Foster Care:"

...Serious disparities also exist in relation to the US child welfare system. Children and families of color, particularly American Indian/Alaska Native and African-American children, are entering foster care at rates higher than non-minority children—and they stay in care longer. According to a 2007 report by the National Indian Child Welfare Association (NICWA), American Indian children are represented at nearly two times the level expected. Although Native children make up roughly 1% of the national child population, they are 2% of the children who entered foster care in 2005 and 2% of children in foster care waiting to be adopted. This disproportionality in the child welfare system happens at every step along the way, from the initial call to Child Protective Services (CPS) to placement and court proceedings.

### State-Wide

To further point out the disparities of the number of native children in foster in Alaska the following was released by the State of Alaska OCS for marking interest in foster care denoting May as foster care month.

### Facts About Children in Foster Care in Alaska

<b>Total Population:</b>	2,116 children were in the foster care system in Alaska on January 1, 2008 <sup>i</sup> . Most children are placed temporarily in foster care due to parental abuse or neglect.		
<b>Age:</b> <sup>i</sup>	4% < 1 year	22% 11-15 years	
	32% 1-5 years	10% 16-17 years	
	27% 6-10 years	5% ≥17 years	
<b>Gender:</b> <sup>i</sup>	Male: 49% Female: 52%		
<b>Race and Ethnicity:</b>	<u>Race/Ethnicity</u>	<u>In out-of-home care</u> <sup>j</sup>	<u>In state child population</u> <sup>ii</sup>
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native alone or in combination with other races	61%	25%
	White excluding all other races	29%	63%
	Other	10%	11%
<b>Length of Stay:</b>	The average length of stay for children exiting care in FFY 2007 was 23 months. <sup>iii</sup>		
<b>Reunified:</b>	54% of the young people leaving the system in FFY 2007 were reunified with their birth parents or primary caregivers. <sup>iii</sup>		
<b>Foster Homes:</b>	In January of 2007, there were a total of 1,113 licensed kinship and non-relative foster homes in Alaska <sup>iv</sup> . On January 1, 2008 31% of youth living in out-of-home care were residing with their relatives. <sup>i</sup>		
<b>Adoption:</b>	Of children with state agency involvement adopted in FFY 2007, 44% were adopted by their non-relative foster parents and 56% were adopted by relatives. <sup>iii</sup>		

<http://www.fostercaremonth.org/AboutFosterCare/StatisticsAndData/Documents/AK-Facts-FCM08.pdf>

## **Child Sexual and Physical Abuse Statistics**

### **Nationally:**

- American Indian children have the second highest rate of victimization - 21.3 per 1,000 children - among racial and ethnic groups in the United States. The only group with a higher rate of victimization was Pacific Islander children at a slightly higher rate of 21.4 per 1,000 children - nearly double that of Caucasian children, according to the 2006 National Offenders and Crime Report.
- American Indian and Alaska Native children represent approximately one percent of the total U.S. population yet are overrepresented in substantiated cases of child abuse. Fifty-four percent of females and seventy-one percent of male rape survivors report that their first rape occurred before their eighteenth birthday (National survey of Violence Against Women 2006)

### **State-wide:**

- Alaska's Child abuse rate is six times higher than the national average. (Department of Public Safety/AK CDVSA Report for FY 2006)
- 9.2% of students in grades 9-12 report having been physically forced to have sexual intercourse; 14% had witnessed violence as a child; and 14% had experienced sexual abuse. (<http://hh.state.ak.us/commissioner/health>).

### **Locally:**

In 2007, the Fairbank's Resource Center for Parents and Children (RCPC) - Stevie's Place reported that since they opened their doors in June 2003, 8% of the children referred for a forensic examination for allegations of child sexual abuse had come from the North Slope Borough. This translates to about a child a month that is flown 500 miles away from Barrow to Fairbanks for a forensic interview and/or medical exam. Tragically, in 2009, when new stats were gathered the number had risen to two children every month; and this year in 2011, in the first quarter 15 children were sent to Stevie's place thus far.

### **Tribal Agency Administering the Program:**

For the Barrow Area, the tribal agency responsible for administering and operating the title IV-B programs under the Child and Family Services Plan will be the Native Village of Barrow's Social Services department.

Tribal Agency:	Native Village of Barrow
Contact Person:	Marjorie Solomon, Social Services Director
Address:	P.O. Box 1130 Barrow, AK 99723
Telephone:	907-822-4411
Fax:	907-852-8844
E-mail:	<a href="mailto:marjorie.solomon@nvbarrow.net">marjorie.solomon@nvbarrow.net</a>

The Native Village of Barrow Social Services provides services to its tribal members. These services include information and referral, outreach, intake, assessment, case management, advocacy, facilitation, prevention, and determining eligibility for financial assistance programs, legal advocacy services, foster parent recruitment, training and licensing,. Traditional Inupiat values are considered and developed into the programs whenever possible. These programs are funded by Bureau of Indian Affairs, 638 compact funds.

The Native Village of Barrow Inupiat Traditional Government is a U.S. federally recognized Alaska Native Inupiat government as listed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs circa 2003. Located in Barrow, Alaska, it is part of the North Slope Borough. The constitution and by-laws of the native village were established in 1940 under the Indian Reorganization Act (IRA) of 1934.

The tribal government consists of a council panel that is comprised of seven members, five of whom hold the offices of President, Vice President, and Secretary, Treasurer, and Sergeant at Arms. There is a separation of policy council policy makers and the administrative powers. The council is responsible for creating and passing laws and policies for all tribal members and the management along with the administration of the tribal government falls under the executive director. Social Services, Tribal Court, Realty, Economic Development, Workforce Development, Housing, Indian Reservation Roads, Wildlife, Environmental, Tribal Operations, Grants and Finance encompass the government operations. The program directors are responsible for delivery of departmental programs and supervising staff. These departments administer a variety of program grants and contracts including federal, state, and local funding dollars.

### **Tribal Council**

Thomas Olemaun.....President  
Charles Brower.....Vice President  
Mary Sage.....Secretary  
Marjorie Solomon.....Treasurer  
Dorothy Edwardsen....Sgt. at Arms  
Doreen Lampe.....Member  
George Olemaun.....Member

### **Executive Director**

Thomas Olemaun

### **Vision**

The **Vision** of the Child and Family Services Plan for the Native Village of Barrow Social Services is that every tribal child will live have a healthy and happy life built on safety, well being, and sense of family and community.

### **Mission**

The **Mission** of the Child and Family Service Plan for the Native Village of Barrow Social Services is to facilitate services to tribal families to live healthier lives through the delivery of programs that are based on traditional Inupiat values.

**The Guiding Principles are:**

1. Services will build on community strengths that encompass family traditional knowledge.
2. The community and its families have best knowledge of member strengths and challenges.
3. The successful implementation of programs requires involvement from the community and families in the decision-making process.

**Three-step assessment:**

**Step 1.** Gather information on agency operations and performance, including data reports from internal and/or external sources.

**Data Management****Type of information gathered:**

- Rates of child abuse and neglect for Tribal children
- Number of Tribal children in foster care
- Number of foster homes available in NVB's Tribal community
- Lengths of stay in foster care
- Permanency outcomes for children in foster care

**Where the information is gathered:**

- Implementation of Justware software to gather information on NVBSS operations and performance that will produce data reports from internal sources.
- Gather information from children service providers-
- Native Village of Barrow Tribal Court
- Arctic Women in Crises(AWIC) that provides services to children who come in with their caregivers who seek their services,
- North Slope Borough Police Department (NSBPD).
- Stevie's Place in Fairbanks where children are sent for forensic evaluations and treatment,
- Samuel Simmonds Hospital, where children are brought (only children age 12 and older receive forensic evaluations at the hospital, they are otherwise sent to Stevie's Place.
- North Slope Borough School District,
- North Slope Borough Behavioral Health Department which includes Children Youth Services (CYS)
- State of Alaska Office of Children Services

**Other information identified will be:**

- Information on service availability and utilization of existing services

## **Step 2. Analyze the information**

### **Data Analysis**

#### **How data will be analyzed:**

- Upon completion of gathering the information, the data will be analyzed and put in formats that explain the data which may consist of the following: charts, graphs, narratives and summaries.
- Once data is prepared a planning group will meet annually to determine the strengths and weaknesses from the information gathered.

**Step 3.** Draw conclusions, formulate hypotheses, and develop and articulate assumptions about what steps the agency can take to improve performance in key areas.

### **Plan Availability and Data Conclusions for Performance**

#### **How data will used to increase performance and share information:**

- The data will be used for the joint planning in the ongoing partnership between the Native Village of Barrow Social Services and ACFCB in the development, review, analysis, and refinement and/or revision of the Tribe's CFSP.
- During the course of each year as the data and systems are analyzed these goals may be drafted to update, expand or modify as program needs are identified and submitted to the regional office for approval.
- The NVBSS will exchange the copy of the CFSP by sending it to partner organizations and posting it online along with subsequent reports at the NVB website under the Social Services Department. It can be view at [http://www.nvbarrow.com/titleIVB\\_75.html](http://www.nvbarrow.com/titleIVB_75.html)

## **Partnerships, Consultation and Coordination:**

### **Partnerships**

The Native Village of Barrow's partnerships are comprised of the following:

Existing partnerships exists between Native Village of Barrow Social Services (NVBSS) and the following:

- Native Village of Barrow Tribal Courts
- Arctic Women in Crisis (AWIC)
- State of Alaska Office of Children Services (OCS)



- North Slope Borough Police Department (NSBPD) and the North Slope Borough Health Department (NSBHD) and North Slope Borough Schools District (NSBSD)
- Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)

MOA's exist between the NVBSS, OCS, and AWIC.

Areas of weakness in these partnerships exist in joint planning, consultation and coordination identified and we need to address –

- Collaborative efforts with the Tribal Court
- Expand and develop expanded understandings with the OCS and the BIA
- Develop deeper partnerships with the NSB departments

Along with expanding these partnerships, NVBSS will seek to find other partners.

**Report: June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012.** The Native Village of Barrow has been in contact with Inupiat Communities of the Arctic Slope (ICAS) who is the regional federally recognized tribe to request that the agencies work together on social service concerns.

The NVBSS has sent a Letter of Intent (LOI) to OCS requesting that if approved for the Title IV-B that we meet to contract for Title IV-E which will lead to further collaboration if implemented.

A new partnership will form when the Native Village of Barrow meets with ACFCB in a joint planning session in the development, review, analysis, and refinement and/or revision of the Tribe's CFSP.

**Report: June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012.** The Native Village of Barrow has contacted the State and the State of Alaska has forwarded the documents regarding the Title IV-E.

State of Alaska's Office of Children Services has assisted in any help that NVB has requested and provided information that to us that NVB has requested. They have attending our community workshops and have given valuable input into our programs.

We have not requested ILS assistance from the OCS, the majority of our clients are 10 and under. For those that are 16 to 18 we provide them with assistance in such activities as getting their drivers license and fees/support in getting into camps and recreational activities/sports.

The area that we most need to communicate and explore with State of Alaska is – although the State can give subsidies to State of Alaska initiated adoptions to assist the adoptive parents in supplying funds for clothing and food, the Native Village of Barrow does not have for NVB initiated adoptions access to funds to provide these essentials. We will explore with the State of Alaska in this upcoming year what resources might be available to us.

## Consultation

Participation and teamwork implemented with community partners is necessary to create and then preserve a system that ensures healthy and happy life paths through tribal programs and other resources.

Visioning session was held at the heritage with 23 participants who included partners and community members.

The following recommendations were made:

- Educate the public on preventative family practices through workshops
- Educate the public on the foster care process workshops in a “one stop shop” including how licensing for relatives brings compensation to help defray costs
- Let the Inupiat community know their rights
- OCS suggested that NVBSS take a comprehensive training course that has become one of the goals under application.
- It was brought up that Stevie’s Place wants to come to Barrow and give trainings, this will be followed up on and implemented if possible.
- It was suggested that Policy and Procedures may need to be looked at because often times parents have their children placed in the custody of relatives while they party then regain the children, then start a merry-go-round of this behavior until the relatives say it’s enough and custody is turned over to NVBSS.
- Health Commissioner is coming in July and an invitation should be forwarded to visit NVBSS
- Involve the churches more in preventative and solicitation of foster parents.

The Native Village of Barrow’s team to deliver child welfare services are comprised of 1 social service director, 2 family advocates; the position descriptions are attached.

## Coordination

The Native Village of Barrow Social Services coordinates with the Office of Children Services in the protection, custody, and placement of the children. Coordination also exists between the NSBPD, AWIC, ASNA, OCS, Child Advocacy Centers such as Stevie’s Place in Fairbanks and the NVSS in the protection of children who are victims of crime.

In extreme cases where the children are assaulted the coordination is as follows:

OCS handles it if it is in-home  
NSBPD handles it if it is out-of home

One of the following is initially involved NSBPD, NVBSS, OCS → then Hospital → whomever was not there initially is notified NSBPD, NVBSS, OCS → After the hospital children are taken to Stevie’s Place → When they leave Stevie’s Place they may be taken

into OCS safe houses in Anchorage or Fairbanks → OCS notifies NVBSS of the placement

#### **422 ICWA:**

When children are in the custody of the Native Village of Barrow, the Native Village of Barrow is responsible for the 422 protections.

When the children are in the custody of OCS, OCS is responsible for the 422 protections.

#### **Agreement between the Native Village of Barrow and OCS**

Based on their government to government relationship,. the State of Alaska (hereinafter "the State"), through its Department of Health & Social Services, Office of Children's Services (hereinafter "OCS") and the Native Village of Barrow (hereinafter "NVB"), through its Social Services Department (hereinafter "Tribal Social Services") enter into this Tribal-State Agreement authorized by the Indian Child Welfare Act (25 U.S.C. 1919) in order to provide continued protection and services for the children in the Barrow community subject to the jurisdiction of the Native Village of Barrow.

**Section 1.** This Tribal-State Agreement is intended to set out a practical process for cooperation in child protection in Barrow and throughout the state when the child is believed to be a member or eligible for membership in the Native Village of Barrow.

#### **Section 2. Statement of Common Principles**

This Tribal State Agreement is based on the following shared principles and beliefs:

- Children are a society's single-most important resource;
- The Indian Child Welfare Act was enacted to protect the best interests of tribal children and to promote the stability and security of tribes and families by the establishment of minimum standards for the removal of tribal children from their families and the placement of tribal children in foster, guardian or adoptive homes which will reflect the unique values of their culture;
- Children who belong to the Native Village of Barrow and reside within the State of Alaska are a valuable resource to both the State of Alaska and the Native Village of Barrow and both parties have a desire to protect these children;
- Where a tribe has reassumed jurisdiction of its children under ICWA, cross-jurisdictional coordination and cooperation is the best way to protect and provide continuity of care to the shared resource of tribal children residing in Alaska;
- Respect for the government-to-government relationship, as well as the institutional knowledge and experience of each party to this Tribal-State Agreement results in good child protection policy and practice; and
- Protecting each child's safety, well-being and cultural identity must continue as our paramount focus.

#### **Section 3. Definitions**

A. Custody - The right and responsibility for the legal or physical care, control and maintenance of a child.

B. Domicile - A person's permanent home to which the person intends to return even when absent. A child acquires a "domicile of origin" at birth, which is the domicile of the

parents and which continues until a new one, "a domicile of choice", is acquired. For the child of an unwed mother, the domicile of origin is the mother's domicile. The child's domicile may be a place where the child is not, and has never been physically present.

C. Jurisdiction - A court's authority to accept cases and rule on legal matters.

D. Residence - The place where a person is currently living.

E. If any term used in this agreement is defined in the Indian Child Welfare Act, 25 USC 1903, it shall have the same meaning in this document unless otherwise defined by this agreement.

#### **Section 4. Jurisdiction**

A. Pursuant to the approval of its Petition for Reassumption of Exclusive Jurisdiction by the Secretary of the Interior, effective September 7, 1999, the Native Village of Barrow has exclusive jurisdiction over child custody proceedings involving children who are enrolled or eligible for enrollment with the Native Village of Barrow and reside or are domiciled within the Native Village of Barrow, an area coterminous with the City of Barrow, 64 Fed. Reg.

36391 (July 6, 1999).

B. On September 10, 1999, the Native Village of Barrow and the Office of Children's Services entered into an Interim Memorandum of Agreement, which was subsequently amended by mutual agreement, providing for concurrent state and tribal jurisdiction over children needing protection before tribal services were fully available. The state courts shall continue to exercise jurisdiction over any child taken into custody prior to September 10, 1999, or under the Interim Memorandum of Agreement, as amended, and still in the custody of the Office of Children's Services on the effective date of this agreement, subject to the Tribe's right to petition for transfer of jurisdiction to tribal court. On August 12 and August 16, 2004, the Office of Children's Services and the Native Village of Barrow executed an Amendment to Tribal State Agreement and extended that agreement as executed on September 24 and October 8, 2004. A Second Amendment to Tribal State Agreement was executed April 1 and April 11, 2005.

C. A child in Alaska who is a member or eligible for membership in the Native Village of Barrow but residing outside the Native Village of Barrow is subject to the concurrent jurisdiction of the courts of the State of Alaska and the courts of the Native Village of Barrow.

D. In cases where the state exercises jurisdiction over a Native Village of Barrow tribal child who resides outside Barrow, the Tribe may move, pursuant to 25 USC 1911(b), to transfer jurisdiction to tribal court.

E. If an Indian child is made a ward of the tribal court, the Tribe shall retain exclusive jurisdiction of that child, regardless of domicile or residence, so long as the child remains a ward of the tribal court.

F. NVB shall continue to exercise exclusive jurisdiction and legal and financial responsibility for all Barrow children over which it exercised exclusive jurisdiction before the date this Tribal State Agreement is signed. The state will continue to exercise jurisdiction and legal and financial responsibility over all cases over which it exercised jurisdiction before this agreement was signed.

#### **Section 5. Full Faith and Credit**

Pursuant to 25 USC 1911 (d), the State and Tribe shall ask their respective courts to give full faith and credit to each other's public acts, records and judicial proceedings to the same extent that they give full faith and credit to the public acts, records and judicial proceedings of any other entity.

#### **Section 6. General Practice**

A. In any proceeding involving a child where the Office of Children's Services has reason to believe the child may be a child within the jurisdiction of the Native Village of Barrow, the Office of Children's Services shall presume the child to be an Indian child until an affirmative determination is made by Tribal Social Services regarding the child's status.

B. When Tribal Social Services receives a Report of Harm about a child and the child does not appear to be within the Tribe's jurisdiction, it will immediately notify OCS for investigation by calling or faxing to one of OCS's contact numbers. OCS will provide any updated contact numbers to Tribal Social Services through its Barrow Office. The parties will provide contact numbers to each other.

C. When OCS receives a report of harm involving a child who may be a member of or eligible for membership in the NVB, OCS will immediately notify Tribal Social Services in person, or by calling or faxing. Tribal Social Services will provide any updated contact numbers to OCS through its Barrow Office.

D. OCS will have primary responsibility for receipt and prioritization of reports of harm. Reports of harm first received by NVB Tribal Social Services shall immediately be forwarded to OCS. Reports of Harm received by OCS regarding children in Barrow who may be within NVB's jurisdiction will be prioritized for investigation according to OCS policy. OCS shall investigate the report of harm until the child has been determined to be a member of or eligible for membership in the Native Village of Barrow and thus within NVB's exclusive jurisdiction.

E. Within 24 hours of written (faxed) notification by OCS of a Report of Harm, Tribal Social Services will review its records and determine whether the child involved is a member of, or eligible for membership in, the Native Village of Barrow and will notify OCS in writing of its determination. If the child is determined to be a member of or eligible for membership in the Native Village of Barrow, NVB Tribal Social Services shall assume responsibility for completing the investigation, except as outlined below.

F. For investigations conducted by NVB, NVB Social Services may seek, and OCS will provide, assistance to NVB Social Services if requested by NVB Social Services. NVB Social Services will seek assistance from OCS, and OCS will provide assistance, in all child sexual abuse cases in order to minimize the number of interviews of a child.

G. The state shall have concurrent jurisdiction with NVB at the point at which OCS, in its sole discretion, decides (after consultation with NVB) that it is necessary to remove or seek the removal of a child from the home. If OCS files a petition in state court, it will provide services to the child and the child's family in accordance with state law and state policy.

H. If OCS has taken custody of a child who is later determined to be within the exclusive jurisdiction of the NVB, OCS and Tribal Social Services will coordinate efforts so that the child's transition to tribal jurisdiction will not cause a disruption in care and services.

I. If the state files a petition in state court under section 6.G, NVB, in its sole discretion, may file in state court a petition to transfer jurisdiction under ICWA 1911(b). The state will not oppose the motion. If jurisdiction reverts to NVB, OCS and NVB Tribal Social Services will coordinate efforts so that the child's transition to tribal jurisdiction will not cause a disruption in care or services. Once NVB assumes exclusive jurisdiction over the child, NVB shall have full responsibility for the child, including the provision of services to the child, and if appropriate and necessary, the child's family.

J. At the first hearing on the petition for custody filed by OCS in state court, or at the first hearing following its receipt of notice pursuant to the ICWA, NVB Social Services shall:

a. Notify the court that the child is an Indian child of the Native Village of Barrow residing or domiciled in Barrow and NVB is asserting its exclusive jurisdiction over the child or that the state has concurrent jurisdiction over the child and whether NVB will or will not intervene.

b. Notify the court that the child is an Indian child of the Native Village of Barrow but not residing or domiciled in Barrow and the tribe intends to intervene in the judicial proceeding or request transfer to tribal court.

c. Notify the court whether a membership determination can be made prior to adjudication since NVB has not yet established membership, eligibility, residency or domicile;

d. Notify the court that the child is not an Indian child of the Native Village of Barrow.

### **Section 7. Placement**

The parties agree that a child subject to the jurisdiction of the NVB can be placed for special services in a state licensed placement upon an order of tribal court if:

a. OCS has agreed in advance in writing to use of a bed in its facility;

b. The proposed foster parent or placement facility has agreed to placement based on written terms offered by the tribe, and

c. The tribal court finds there is good cause to believe that the child and family can receive more appropriate services from the state licensed placement.

### **Section 8. Cases Where the State of Alaska Retains Jurisdiction**

A. OCS understands that guardianship is the tribe's preferred permanency plan for its children in state custody when reunification is not feasible. OCS also understands that there are permanency options available under tribal written and customary law that may be more appropriate and that can best be effected in Tribal Court.

B. While NVB Tribal Social Services will provide assistance in locating placements within ICWA preferences for NVB tribal children in state custody, the ultimate responsibility for finding placements that comply with ICWA rests with OCS.

### **Section 9. Information**

A. All information and material in the possession of OCS or Tribal Social Services, whether in oral or written form shall be considered confidential information and may only be disclosed by either party, to the extent permitted by the applicable tribal, state or federal law.

B. If OCS or an employee of the agency has information or records relating to a child or the family of a child, over whose child protection proceeding the Tribe is exercising

jurisdiction, the OCS records custodian or employee may be called to testify before the tribal court. The NVB will pay the expenses related to taking such testimony by telephone, deposition or in person, including travel and per diem at the level ordinarily paid to witnesses under tribal law.

C. **If** the Tribal Social Services or an employee of the agency has information or records relating to a child or the family of a child protection proceeding within the State court jurisdiction, the Tribal Social Services records custodian or employee may be subpoenaed to testify before the court. The State of Alaska will pay the expense related to taking such testimony by telephone, deposition or in person, including travel and per diem at the level ordinarily paid to witnesses under state law.

D. **In** the interest of cooperation and effective child protection, Tribal Social Services and OCS agree to disclose any unprivileged information regarding a particular case not prohibited by applicable tribal, federal or state law.

E. All requested information subject to being shared and requested by either party shall be provided within 30 days of the request. All oral requests shall be formalized by a follow-up written request.

#### **Section 10. Sharing of Resources and Inter-Agency Collaboration**

A. Because protecting the child's safety, well-being and cultural identity continues as our paramount focus, there is a need to assist the family in acquiring the services necessary to meet this goal. To the extent practicable and allowed by law, Tribal Social Services and OCS agree to share resources to provide the best services possible to the child and family, regardless of jurisdiction, subject to the entity with custody being financially and legally responsible for such children as provided in section 4.F.

B. As much as is practicable and allowed by law, Tribal Social Services and OCS agree to assist each other with finding foster homes and identifying and setting up services.

C. Tribal Social Services and OCS, recognizing the need for a more formalized statement about the sharing of resources, including a pass through of Title IV -E funds (available from the federal government under the provisions of Title IV-E of the Social Security Act), agree to continue to pursue discussions to develop a separate Title IV -E agreement.

#### **Share Information with Other Tribes and Community**

- The NVBSS will exchange the copy of the CFSP by sending it to partner organizations and posting it online along with subsequent reports at the NVB website under the Social Services Department. Posted online for viewing It can be view at [http://www.nvbarrow.com/titleIVB\\_75.html](http://www.nvbarrow.com/titleIVB_75.html)

#### **Service Description**

Native Village of Barrow (NVB) has exclusive Jurisdiction over Indian Children Welfare Act (ICWA) cases in Barrow. When Children are taken into state or tribal custody, the NVB Social Services Department works with families to build a safe and stable environment for children and help keep children in their own home whenever possible.

The Department has an obligation to the Inupiat people as a whole, and seeks to protect children as the tribe's most important resource. When reunification with their own parents is not possible because parents fail to provide a safe environment, the NVB Social Services Department works to ensure that children stay within their extended families or the Barrow Tribe. A child's cultural and extended family connections are vital to maintain.

## **Report June 30, 2012**

### **☐ A description of the activities undertaken by the Tribe to reduce the length of time that young children under age five are in foster care without a permanent family; and**

NVB Social Services works closely with parents for unification and up to 1 year to 15 months to finish their case plan. If the parents are able to be reunited we start the process for permanent placement through adoptive homes. Some instances where the parent is making a good faith effort we may extend the time up to a year.

### **☐ A description of the activities the Tribe undertakes to address the developmental needs of children under the age of five who receive services under the title IV-B or IV-E programs (section 422(b)(18) of the Act).**

The Infant Learning Program (ILP) for ages 3 and under referral to ILP coordinator who assess the child, if problems are identified in her report i.e. developmental delay she works with the child and administers that portion of the program with regular reports to us. If other problems are identified i.e. hearing ENT we will follow through on getting the needed services.

### **☐How the Tribe will monitor and treat emotional trauma associated with a child's maltreatment and removal, in addition to other health needs identified through screenings and protocols for the appropriate use and monitoring of psychotropic medications.**

NVB Social Services works with child and gives counseling; if the case is severe it is referred to the North Slope Borough Public Mental Health Department. For psychotropic medications we have an assessment done to see if there are alternatives to the medications, if the medications are indeed needed we work to insure the medication is appropriate and the parents are involved in this process. When placed in foster care we receive regular reports from foster parents.

## **Goals , Objectives, Outcomes, and Measures of the Native Village of Barrow's Child and Family Services Plan Part I**

<b>Goal 1:</b> Train staff in signs of child abuse and neglect
<b>Objective 1.1:</b> In the timeline of this grant send one advocate to be trained per year
<b>How Goal 1, Objective 1.1, will be accomplished:</b>



<p>A. NVBSS will send 1 to 2 advocates to training per year.</p> <p>B. The training may include ICWA or other training that will train advocates in skills to reduce Child Abuse and Neglect (CAN).</p>
<b>Outcome 1.1a:</b> Children will be better served by Advocates who have been trained to recognize abuse
<b>Outcome 1.1b:</b> Children will be able to better handle stress under the guidance of trained advocates
<b>Measure:</b> Trained advocates will reduce CAN by 10% per year based on the 2010 baseline
<b>Goal 2:</b> Promote the safety, permanence, and well-being of tribal children in foster care
<b>Objective 2.1:</b> Actively recruit native foster parents within the community with focus on emergency placement foster care
<p><b><u>How Goal 2, Objective 2.1 will be accomplished:</u></b></p> <p>A. Actively recruit foster parents by utilizing public events, radio stations, t.v. ads, box holders and flyers, and holding quarterly community foster care education events.</p> <p>B. Work with our local college to set up foster parent training to help foster parents get the skills to deal with special needs children.</p> <p>C. Provide the community with more educations on how to become a foster parent and what is expected of them.</p> <p>D. Advocate for more available beds at CYS to be held for emergency placement</p> <p>E. Offer support services to foster parents by providing such things as foster parent training.</p>
<b>Outcome 2.1:</b> Native foster care placement on-slope will increase and connect children to their community and heritage
<b>Measure 2.1:</b> Number of emergency placement foster care homes will increase by 3 homes per year
<b>Measure 2.2:</b> Number of licensed foster family placement and foster care homes will increase by 10%

## Child and Family Services Plan Part I

### Report of progress June 2012

**Goal 1, Objective 1** is revised to have ICWA or other training, replacing OCS sponsored training only. Training for 2013, will be based upon available training schedules that coincide with training needs.

**Measure 1.1:** Trained advocates will reduce CAN by 10% per year based on the 2010 baseline.

**Result:** Advocates have not yet attended training; the attached TA's reflect the OCS NVB Social Services will be attending in August. Once the training is completed we expect to gain skills to reduce CAN.

**Measure 2.1:** Number of emergency placement foster care homes will increase by 3 homes per year.

**Result:** We recruited 4 emergency-placement foster care homes so far this year.

**Measure 2.2:** Number of licensed foster family placement and foster care homes will increase by 10%. We exceeded the 10%

**Result:** At the onset of award period had one foster care placement home now we have four and all four of our foster care homes are fully licensed.

## **Child and Family Services Plan Part II**

**NVB Social Services will conduct the following:**

- **Family Preservation**

Recruit acting guardians, secure treatment options, and stabilization of youth with suicidal tendencies.

- **Family Support**

Provide food, clothing, and daily necessities

- **Time limited family reunification**

Enrollment will be completed for summer camp and recreational activities that will create the ability for families to interact in healthy ways.

- **Adoption promotion and support services**

Informational materials will be produced

**Addressing the P.L 112-34:**

*P.L. 112-34 added a requirement for grantees receiving title IV-B, subpart 2 funds to address how they identify and target services to populations at greatest risk of maltreatment. In the APSR, Tribes must include:*

☐ *A description of how the Tribe identifies which populations are at the greatest risk of maltreatment and how the Tribe targets services to the populations at greatest risk of maltreatment (section 432(a)(10) of the Act).*

The tribe has currently identified the population that is at the greatest risk of maltreatment to be teens ages 13 to 17. How that was identified was through membership concerns and through lack of resources for youth who are of this age.

How the tribe targets services to this population is through our tribal youth program at tribal court, our young hunters program through our Wildlife department, and for the extreme cases where teens are idealizing suicide and other form of self destructive behavior the social services department works to stabilize the youth including but not limited to such activities of:

- Traveling by air to cities where the youth have fled
- Driving the streets of cities and tracking them to bring them into treatment
- Locating treatment centers that will take difficult cases
- 

## **Family Preservation Goals, Objectives, Outcomes, and Measures of the Native Village of Barrow's Child and Family Services Plan Part II**

<b>Goal 1: Family Preservation</b>
<b>Objective 1.1: Stabilize families with at risk teens</b>
<b><u>How Goal 1, Objective 1.1, will be accomplished:</u></b>
A. NVBSS will immediately respond to reports of at risk teens
B. Teens will be located and brought into treatment
<b>Outcome 1.1a: At risk teens will be taken out of dangerous streets</b>
<b>Outcome 1.1b: Families will be given a chance to resolve issue and reunite</b>
<b>Measure: Number of teens receiving services to stabilize them and preserve their family is five.</b>
<b>Goal 2: Family Support</b>
<b>Objective 2.1: Provide support services to temporary family placement parents</b>
<b><u>How Goal 2, Objective 2.1 will be accomplished:</u></b>
A. Provide food, clothing and other essential items for the teens
B. Provide supportive tools to temporary parents to deal with teen issues
<b>Outcome 2.1: Teens will be able to stay with family members who may not may otherwise assist by taking in the youth due to lack of resources.</b>
<b>Measure 2.1: Is to provide services to 5 teens placed with temporary family placement parents</b>
<b>Goal 3: Time-limited Family Reunification</b>
<b>Objective 3.1: To provide teens with healthy activities during the reunification process</b>
<b>How Goal 3, Objective 3.1, will be accomplished:</b>
<b>A. NVBSS will provide to teens the opportunity to participate in sports or</b>

<p>other healthy activities by providing the fees associated with partaking in them.</p> <p><b>B. Parents will be invited to sporting or other events to foster the reunification process</b></p>
<b>Outcome 3.1: During the family reunification process youth will gain confidence and healthy attitudes through participation in healthy activities.</b>
<b>Measure: Fees will be provided to five youth per year</b>
<b>Goal 4: Adoption promotion and support services</b>
<b>Objective 4.1: Actively promote adoption in the membership community</b>
<p><b>How Goal 4, Objective 4.1 will be accomplished:</b></p> <p><b>A. Website will be updated to provide information on the adoption process</b></p> <p><b>B. Support Services will be updated and listed on the website</b></p> <p><b>C. PSA's will include resources the website offers</b></p>
<b>Outcome 4.1: Adoption and support services information will be readily available</b>
<b>Measure 4: Website updates with adoption and supportive services resources will be conducted 3 times per year</b>

**Part II does not have a report due to the request for funding in this area is for this report period of June 2012.**

#### **Health Care Services:**

##### **Children in the custody of Office of Children Services**

When tribal children are in the custody of the State the State is responsible for the medical care of the children. When the State places children in foster care, the State is responsible for the medical care of the children.

##### **Children in the custody of the Native Village of Barrow**

When the Native Village of Barrow takes custody of tribal children the tribe is responsible for the medical care of the children. When the Native Village of Barrow places children in foster, the tribe is responsible for the medical care of the children.

Children placed in Foster Care by the tribe:

- 1) Foster parents shall work with the Tribe to ensure that health care needs of children placed in their care are met, including making and arranging transportation to medical, dental and counseling appointments as needed, and as is possible based on the resources available in the local community and the region.
- 2) Foster parents shall obtain necessary emergency medical care for children placed in their home as is possible based on the resources

available in the local community and the region. Foster parents shall obtain permission, where possible, from the birth parents and the Case worker for major medical decisions that are not of an emergency nature.

- 3) Foster parents shall be responsible for keeping immunizations current for children placed in their home.
- 4) Foster parents shall give children prescription medication only in accordance with a physician's prescription or authorization.
- 5) Foster parents shall give children prescription psychotropic (mental health) medication only with the parent's permission or if the NVB Department of Social Services gets a court order approving the children's use of the medication.
- 6) Foster parents shall not provide tobacco products in any form to children under the age of 18 placed in their home.

**Estimated Expenditures for above Services:** The Native Village of Barrow Social Services anticipates that the funds for Title IV-B will be used towards training advocates to support children in need of aid and foster care recruitment. Under the current formula the Native Village of Barrow is eligible for \$13,032 per year, and under part II \$42,990 has been requested. The majority of funding of the social services programs is through the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

**Program Support:** The tribe will be completing a time study that will help to determine the areas of strengths and weaknesses.

**Monthly Caseworker Visits:** The NVB staff will continue to make monthly home visits to all children in care. Staff will ensure foster parents are fulfilling their responsibilities according to the foster parent's case plan and court orders are necessary.

**Training:** Along with training requested by this grant the NVBSS' new director is identifying additional training opportunities that will funded by the compact 638 funds and/or by scholarships.

**Technical assistance:** The Native Village of Barrow will continue to seek technical assistance from DHHS/ACF, Region X and will create a technical needs assessment to identify strong matches of needs and assistance through the NRC directory.

We have received the NRC Directory from Molly Mee our Region X Child Welfare Program Specialist. Ms. Mee has assisted the tribe throughout our capacity building process and we will be identifying which technical assistance options will best be suited to our immediate needs in the next few months.